

# NEW JERSEY GAZETTE

Volume 3 • Issue 1

Fall 2004

The Newsletter of the New Jersey Historical Commission, the Historic Trust and the State Archives

## ABOUT THE

## NEW JERSEY GAZETTE

This issue marks the beginning of our third volume of the *New Jersey Gazette*. This publication represents a partnership of the New Jersey State Archives, the New Jersey Historical Commission and the New Jersey Historic Trust. These three state agencies dedicated to the preservation and promotion of New Jersey's heritage have come together with the Public Policy Center of New Jersey, which publishes *New Jersey Heritage* magazine, to produce the *New Jersey Gazette*.

The *New Jersey Gazette* is named after New Jersey's first newspaper, which was first published in Trenton on December 17, 1777. Following in the tradition of its namesake, the *New Jersey Gazette* will serve the history community and interested New Jerseyans in the same informative manner. The *New Jersey Gazette* is a conduit for the public to learn about past preservation efforts, current history projects, and upcoming opportunities to ensure that our state's past will always be a vital part of its future.

## DATES FOR GRANTS, PRIZES FROM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

For information on New Jersey Historical Commission grants and prizes, call Ms. Mary Murrin at (609) 984-0954 or visit the NJHC Web site at [www.newjerseyhistory.org](http://www.newjerseyhistory.org).

### Minigrants and Archival Evaluation Projects:

No deadline.

### Mildred Barry Garvin Prize for Teaching Black History:

Deadline: October 1, 2004

Notification: January 2005

### Richard P. McCormick Prize for Scholarly Publication:

Deadline: January 2, 2005

Notification: September 2005

### General Operating Support Grants:

Letter of Intent: March 1, 2005

Deadline: April 1, 2005

Notification: July 2005

### Project Grants:

Deadline: September 2005

Notification: November 2005

## 20th Annual Historical Commission Conference Announced

# NOTED HISTORIANS MARK 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF ABOLITION LAW

The 20th Annual Conference of the New Jersey Historical Commission will focus on "Slavery and Abolition in New Jersey," on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the 1804 law for the gradual emancipation of slaves.

The full-day conference, to be held at the Trenton Marriott on Saturday, November 20, also will include an awards luncheon and a schedule of afternoon workshops and tours.

The John T. Cunningham lecturer for the 2004 conference will be Dr. Ira Berlin, who is a Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland and is internationally recognized as an authority on the history of slavery and emancipation in the New World.

Dr. Berlin's books include *Slaves Without Masters: The Free Negro in the Antebellum South* (1975), *Many Thousands Gone: The First Two Centuries of Slavery in Mainland North America* (1999) and *Generations of Captivity: A History of African-American Slaves* (2003).

The University of Maryland professor's awards include the Bancroft Prize from Columbia University, the Frederick Douglass Prize from the Gilder-Lehrman Institute, and the Owsley Prize from the Southern Historical Association.

The Humanities Council of Washington also recently named Dr. Berlin as Outstanding Public Humanities Scholar. Dr. Berlin is a past president of the Organization of American Historians.

Also speaking at the 20th Annual New Jersey Historical Commission Conference will be Dr. Clement Price, Board of Governors Distinguished Service Professor at Rutgers University.

Dr. Price has played a leadership role with many organizations in New Jersey, including the State Council on the Arts, the Fund for New Jersey, the Governor's Commission on Ellis Island, and the Newark Public Schools.

Dr. Price is the founder and director of the Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience at Rutgers University. In 1999, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education named him as its New Jersey Professor of the Year.

Dr. Price is the author of many publications on African-American history, including *Freedom Not Far Distant: A Documentary History of Afro-Americans in New Jersey* (1980).

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION:** The registration fee for the conference is \$30, which includes lunch and all events. Display tables are available; 21 organizations and individuals took display tables last year. Contact Diane Dillon of the New Jersey Historical Commission at (609) 984-3458 for further information on registration, tables or events. You can also check the Historical Commission's Web site at [www.newjerseyhistory.org](http://www.newjerseyhistory.org) for further information and updates.



NOTEWORTHY HISTORIANS: Dr. Ira Berlin of the University of Maryland, left, and Dr. Clement Price of Rutgers University are the featured speakers at the 20th Annual New Jersey Historical Commission Conference.



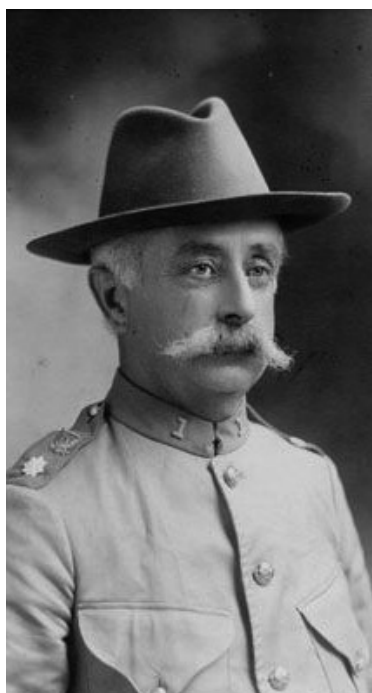
# HISTORIC IMAGES POSTED TO STATE ARCHIVES' WEB SITE

In our Fall 2003 issue we announced the unveiling of the State Archives' Web catalog and the posting of two historic image collections—Civil War *cartes de visites* and 1903 views of the Morris Canal—to the State Archives' Web site at [www.njarchives.org](http://www.njarchives.org).

In April 2004, four additional photographic collections were added to the site. All four collections are linked from the Imaged Collections Web page at [www.njarchives.org/links/imgcollections.html](http://www.njarchives.org/links/imgcollections.html), including the following:



**Bordentown Manual Training School Photographs:** This collection contains ninety-five photographs of student activities and training, staff, and views of school grounds and buildings. The collection, which dates from the 1930s to the 1950s, can be found at [www.njarchives.org/links/guides/sedma005.html](http://www.njarchives.org/links/guides/sedma005.html).



*SPANISH-AMERICAN INFANTRY OFFICER: ON-LINE ARCHIVE: Image of Lt. Colonel R. Heber, First Regiment.*

**Portraits of Spanish-American War Infantry Officers:** These forty portraits were collected by Adjutant General R. Heber Breintnall's Office in 1904 as part of a special project to honor those who had served as officers during the War with Spain. This collection of portraits can be found on the Web at [www.njarchives.org/links/guides/sdea5005.html](http://www.njarchives.org/links/guides/sdea5005.html).

**Portraits of Spanish-American War Naval Officers:** Similar to the collection above, these portraits of officers of the Naval Battalions of the East and West were collected in 1904-05 by the Adjutant General's office. These twenty-six high-resolution images can be found on the Web at [www.njarchives.org/links/guides/sdea5006.html](http://www.njarchives.org/links/guides/sdea5006.html).

**Construction of the Wanaque Waterworks:** This collection depicts the building of the waterworks at Wanaque Reservoir by



*BORDENTOWN MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL: Photo of the training school's auto shop.*

the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission. The 150 images, which document the initial construction from November 1920 to October 1923, can be found at [www.njarchives.org/links/guides/sznor001.html](http://www.njarchives.org/links/guides/sznor001.html).

Special recognition goes to Archives staff members Veronica Calder, Lois Bredlow and Joanne Nestor for their fine work on the new Imaged Collections pages. Look for new collections to be posted to the site later this year.

## Volunteer Award for History Set

Secretary of State Regena Thomas has announced the establishment of the Governor's Volunteer Award for History. The award will be administered annually by the Governor's Office of Volunteerism, with the assistance of the New Jersey Historical Commission.

The award will recognize outstanding volunteers in the state's historic sites, museums, and organizations. Any individual who donates his or her talents to the preservation of and public appreciation for the state's past will be eligible for recognition -- whether as a tour guide, living history demonstrator, exhibit designer, historical society officer, or other role.

"Many organizations thrive on the time and talents their volunteers provide," said Secretary of State Thomas. "History-related organizations are not an exception. For their many contributions to these organizations, volunteers deserve this recognition."

A 1997 Rutgers University study commissioned by the Task Force on New Jersey History found that at a sample of sixty-four historic sites volunteers donated a total of 640,000 hours of work per year, worth an estimated \$9.6 million.

The History award will be one of ten awards for volunteer service currently presented by the Governor's Office of Volunteerism. Volunteers are awarded in the following areas: the arts, education, environment, health, human services, public safety, service to seniors, service to youth, long term service, volunteer mobilization, and volunteer leadership. These awards are presented each spring at a ceremony at Drumthwacket, the Governor's official residence.

Sarah Thoma, director of the Governor's Office of Volunteerism announced that nomination forms for these awards will be available in December. A link to the forms will be placed on the Historical Commission Web site, [www.newjerseyhistory.org](http://www.newjerseyhistory.org).





## New 2-Year Grant Cycle Planned

# HISTORICAL COMMISSION AWARDS \$3.475M IN GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT GRANTS

**T**he New Jersey Historical Commission awarded a total of \$3,474,845 in General Operating Support (GOS) grants to eighty organizations in twenty counties at its July 8 meeting. Since the GOS grant program was inaugurated in 2000, millions of dollars have been distributed through this initiative to museums, historic sites, and other history organizations around the state.

GOS grants have enabled recipient organizations to increase their capacity by providing funds for staff, equipment, utilities, leases, consultants, publications, and other basic daily expenses.

Successful applicants have always been awarded funding for a one-year period. But beginning next spring, the New Jersey Historical Commission will expand the grant program to a two-year cycle for GOS grants.

"Our goal is to provide greater stability to history organizations, while at the same time reducing the amount of paperwork that must be done," Dr. Joseph S. Weisberg, chair of the Historical Commission, explained.

Organizations that submit proposals in April 2005 will apply for one year of funding. If successful, they will receive a grant for the first year and a commitment for a grant in the second year if funding is available. Organizations that are turned down for funding in the first year or who missed the application deadline will be able to apply for one-year funding in April 2006.

The Historical Commission will assess the new two-year cycle to determine how well it serves the state's history community. Details of the program will be presented in the fiscal year 2006 General Operating Support booklet now in preparation.

Ms. Mary Murrin, director of the Historical Commission's grant program, will be happy to answer questions and can be reached at (609) 984-0954.

The following GOS grants for fiscal year 2005 were awarded at the Historical Commission meeting in July:

### ATLANTIC COUNTY

**Absecon Lighthouse/Inlet Public/Private Association, Inc.,** Atlantic City, \$45,000  
**Atlantic County Cultural & Heritage Commission,** Mays Landing, \$20,000  
**Atlantic County Historical Society,** Mays Landing, \$8,000  
**Save Lucy Committee, Inc.,** Margate, \$46,000

### BERGEN COUNTY

**Bergen County Parks, Division of Culture & Heritage Affairs,** Hackensack, \$26,000  
**Friends of the Hermitage, Inc.,** Ho-Ho-Kus, \$56,000  
**Meadowlands Museum,** Rutherford, \$10,000  
**Pascack Historical Society,** Pascack, \$5,000  
**Water Works Conservancy,** Oradell, \$22,000

### BURLINGTON COUNTY

**Alice Paul Centennial Foundation, Inc.,** Mount Laurel, \$46,000



*LANDMARK LUCY: The Save Lucy Committee, Inc., Margate, received a General Operating Support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission. The Save Lucy group was one of eighty organizations that shared \$3.475 million in grants.*

PHOTO COURTESY OF SAVE LUCY COMMITTEE, INC.

**Burlington County Historical Society,** Burlington, \$12,000  
**Whitesbog Preservation Trust,** Browns Mills, \$20,000

### CAMDEN COUNTY

**Camden County Historical Society,** Camden, \$30,000  
**Home Port Alliance for the U.S.S. New Jersey,** Camden, \$40,000

### CAPE MAY COUNTY

**Avalon Museum and Historical Society,** Avalon, \$9,000  
**Cape May County Division of Cultural & Heritage Affairs,** Cape May, \$20,000  
**Cape May County Historical & Genealogical Society,** Cape May, \$18,000  
**Center for Community Arts,** Cape May, \$28,000  
**Historic Cold Spring Village Foundation, Inc.,** Cape May, \$100,000  
**Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts,** Cape May, \$385,000  
**Naval Air Station Wildwood,** Rio Grande, \$35,000

### CUMBERLAND COUNTY

**Bayshore Discovery Project,** Port Norris, \$70,000  
**Cumberland County Cultural & Heritage Commission,** Bridgeton, \$15,000  
**Millville Army Airfield Museum,** Millville, \$25,000  
**Wheaton Village, Inc.,** Millville, \$67,000

*(Continued on following page)*

# ***HISTORICAL COMMISSION AWARDS \$3.475M IN GOS GRANTS***

*(Continued from preceding page)*

## **ESSEX COUNTY**

Montclair Historical Society, Montclair, \$25,000  
New Jersey Historical Society, Newark, \$360,000  
Newark Public Library, Newark, \$95,000

## **HUDSON COUNTY**

Hoboken Historical Museum, Hoboken, \$58,000

## **HUNTERDON COUNTY**

Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission, Flemington, \$23,000  
Lambertville Historical Society, Lambertville, \$8,370  
Readington Township Museums, White House Station, \$12,000

## **MONMOUTH COUNTY**

Monmouth County Historical Association, Freehold, \$105,000  
Allaire Village, Inc., Wall Township, \$18,000  
Historical Society of Ocean Grove, Ocean Grove, \$10,000  
Poricy Park Citizens Committee, Middletown, \$10,000

## **MORRIS COUNTY**

Canal Society of New Jersey, Morristown, \$10,000  
Craftsman Farms Foundation, Morris Plains, \$45,000  
Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest, Whippany, \$13,000  
Local History & Genealogy, Joint Free Public Library of Morristown & Morris Township, Morristown, \$48,000  
Macculloch Hall Historical Museum, Morristown, \$14,524  
Morris County Heritage Commission, Morristown, \$30,000  
Morris County Historical Society, Morristown, \$39,000  
Morris County Park Commission, Historic Sites, Morristown, \$88,000  
Morris Museum, Morristown, \$36,000  
Museum of Early Trades & Crafts, Madison, \$56,000

## **OCEAN COUNTY**

Barnegat Bay Decoy & Baymen's Museum, Tuckerton, \$25,000  
Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission, Toms River, \$18,000  
Ocean County Historical Society, Toms River, \$35,000

## **PASSAIC COUNTY**

The American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark, Haledon, \$24,000  
Passaic County Historical Society, Paterson, \$17,000

## **SALEM COUNTY**

Salem County Historical Society, Salem, \$48,000

## **SOMERSET COUNTY**

Crossroads of the American Revolution, Bound Brook, \$10,000  
Heritage Trail Association, Bound Brook, \$25,000  
Meadows Foundation, Inc., Somerset, \$24,000  
Save Ellis Island, Gladstone, \$30,000

## **SUSSEX COUNTY**

Chinkchewunsk Chapter, NSDAR, Newton, \$8,000  
Waterloo Foundation for the Arts, Stanhope, \$20,000

## **UNION COUNTY**

Cranford Historical Society, Cranford, \$5,000  
Historical Society of Elizabeth, Elizabeth, \$8,000  
Historical Society of Plainfield, Plainfield, \$11,000  
Kenilworth Historical Society, Inc., Kenilworth, \$10,000  
Merchants & Drovers Tavern Museum Association, Rahway, \$28,000  
Plainfield Public Library, Plainfield, \$20,000  
Reeves-Reed Arboretum, Summit, \$35,000  
Union County Division of Cultural & Heritage Affairs, Elizabeth, \$95,000

## **WARREN COUNTY**

Help Our Preservation Effort (HOPE), Hope, \$8,475  
Warren County Cultural & Heritage Commission, Oxford, \$23,000

## **MERCER COUNTY**

David Sarnoff Collection, Princeton, \$30,000  
Historical Society of Princeton, \$88,000  
Old Barracks Museum, Trenton, \$46,000  
Preservation New Jersey, Inc., Trenton, \$60,000  
Public Policy Center of New Jersey, Trenton, \$20,000  
Trent House Association, \$12,000  
Trenton Historical Society, Trenton, \$10,000  
William Trent House Museum, Trenton, \$36,000

## **MIDDLESEX COUNTY**

Genealogical Society of New Jersey, New Brunswick, \$10,000  
Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission, New Brunswick, \$125,000  
Special Collections & University Archives/Rutgers University, New Brunswick, \$125,000  
Thomas A. Edison Papers/Rutgers University, New Brunswick, \$120,000



*BIG BANG IN CAPE MAY: Civil War reenactors demonstrate artillery techniques at Historic Cold Spring Village in Cape May. Cold Spring Village was the recipient of a General Operating Support grant.*

PHOTO COURTESY OF HCSV FOUNDATION



# GRANTS FROM NEW JERSEY HISTORIC TRUST ASSIST LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION INITIATIVES

The New Jersey Historic Trust is best known for its funding programs—the Historic Preservation Bond Program of the 1990s, and the current Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund and Cultural



New Jersey Historic Trust

Trust Capital Preservation Grants Program. In 14 years, the Trust has awarded 329 grants totaling nearly \$77 million to projects, of

which the overwhelming majority involve the preservation of buildings. Lighthouses, farmhouses, city halls, houses of worship, libraries, mills, bridges and more have benefited from public investment in historic preservation.

The Trust also funds landscape preservation and research documents such as cultural landscape surveys, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping, archeological studies and landscape preservation and maintenance plans. In fact, a landscape project at Georgian Court College in Lakewood, Ocean County, received one of the first matching grants awarded by the Trust. The funds helped restore masonry surrounding the sunken lagoon, an integral element in architect Bruce Price's landscape design for the former George Jay Gould estate.

Since that time, approximately sixteen projects have featured landscape related activities, including:

- The recreation of an 18th century battle landscape at Monmouth Battlefield, Monmouth County;
- The rose and kitchen garden restoration projects that complement repair work to the main house at the Oakeside Bloomfield Cultural Center, Essex County;
- The cultural landscape plan for Whitesbog, Burlington County, that helped to document industrial landscape features relating to the historic cultivation of cranberries and blueberries; and
- The development of a landscape preservation plan and design for the stabilization and interpretation of foundations, millrace traces, and archaeological discoveries at the Westervelt Lydecker House, Bergen County.

The elements that make a strong landscape preservation project are the same fundamentals that make for a strong architectural preservation project:

1. The project concept should begin with thorough historic research and documentation of existing conditions. This may include input from landscape historians and architects, archaeologists, engineers, horticulturists, arborists and historic preservation consultants.
2. With this knowledge and an understanding of the site's potential use, the project team should develop a preservation philosophy based on preserving, restoring, rehabilitating or reconstructing identified landscape elements. Some projects may incorporate more than one of these goals. The restoration of a kitchen garden, for example, may complement the rehabilitation of a terraced walkway to accommodate accessibility.



*HISTORIC LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IN CAPE MAY: A New Jersey Historic Trust grant of \$97,651 helped fund the restoration of the front and side yards of the Emlen Physick Estate, which attracts 56,000 visitors a year.*

3. A strong plan should include interpretation of the landscape design, which can range from placing labels on individual plants or garden areas, to creating more detailed walking maps or trail markers.

4. Finally, the plan should include recommendations for future maintenance.

Below are profiles of two recent landscape restoration projects funded in part by grants from the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund of the New Jersey Historic Trust.

## RESTORATION OF THE GROUNDS AT THE EMLEN PHYSICK ESTATE

Built in 1879, Cape May's Emlen Physick House and its nine outbuildings comprise a rare surviving example of a late-nineteenth century country estate. The house is attributed to Frank Furness, a prominent Philadelphia architect. Saved from demolition in the 1970s by the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts, the house museum attracts 56,000 visitors every year.

A New Jersey Historic Trust grant of \$97,651 helped fund the restoration of the front and side yards and creation of wheelchair access to the main house through the south yard. Completed in 2002, the project was directed by landscape consultant Ed Shull. He created a master plan based on two historic photographs from c. 1890-1900 that detailed the layout and plantings of the front and side yards. Use of ground-penetrating radar survey in 1994 and an arborist's evaluation of the trees confirmed Shull's findings.

*(Continued on following page)*

# LANDSCAPE PRESERVATION

*(Continued from preceding page)*

Parts of the program included recreating the large front flower bed in its original shape and location, recreating the elliptical carriage drive and pathway from the front to rear drive, removing inappropriate or unhealthy trees and plantings and replacing them with deciduous trees, evergreens and shrubs that are documented in the photograph, and recreating the side yard pathway.

The resulting restoration complements the property's interpretation as a Victorian-era estate. With the help of a Trust grant, the landscaped lawn, gardens and walkways now reflect the precise planting and ornamental quality of a historic landscape.



**RESTORING THE LANDSCAPE OF AN ORNAMENTAL FARM:** *The Bamboo Brook Historic Garden, which is part of the Morris County Park System, received a \$750,000 Historic Trust grant to restore the gardens to the way they looked in the 1927-1946 period. The restored garden wall is in the foreground.*

## BAMBOO BROOK HISTORIC GARDEN

Martha Brookes Hutcheson, a notable landscape architect, created the landscape of Bamboo Brook/Merchiston Farm in Chester Township in Morris County over several decades.

She and her husband purchased the property in 1910 as a summer home and working farm, and she experimented with its landscape design over the course of several decades. Hutcheson's daughter donated the 100-acre site to the Morris County Park Commission in 1972 for use as the Bamboo Brook Outdoor Education Center.

The ongoing restoration project is based on a thorough Historic Landscape Preservation and Maintenance Plan prepared in 2000 by Landscapes, a landscape architecture, planning and historic preservation firm. The goal of the phased project is to restore the gardens to the 1927-1946 period, which can be documented by a series of 1935 photographs and 1940s drawings.

When the work is complete, the landscape will be interpreted as a representative work of Hutcheson. Her design emphasizes axial organization while incorporating circular forms in almost all elements including the driveway, pool, rose garden, arbors, and architectural archways. The plantings will reflect Hutcheson's desire to utilize native plants and explore the theme of the ornamental farm.

The ongoing work funded by the Historic Trust's \$750,000 matching grant involves: rehabilitating the infrastructure that provides water to contiguous pools, spills and ponds; restoring or rebuilding masonry units including the pool, walls, steps and curbs; renewing paths and lawns; reconstructing arbors; and replacing trees and shrubs. The restoration of the east side's coffee terrace, garden and steps were completed in 2003.



## LAWNSIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY HONORED

*Linda Waller (center), President of the Lawnside Historical Society, which serves one of the oldest African-American communities in the nation, receives a New Jersey Historical Commission Award of Recognition from Commission Chair Joseph S. Weisberg (right) and Vice Chair Larry A. Greene (left) at the History Issues Convention.*





# 1776 STATE CONSTITUTION IS FEATURED ON-LINE, DISPLAYED AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

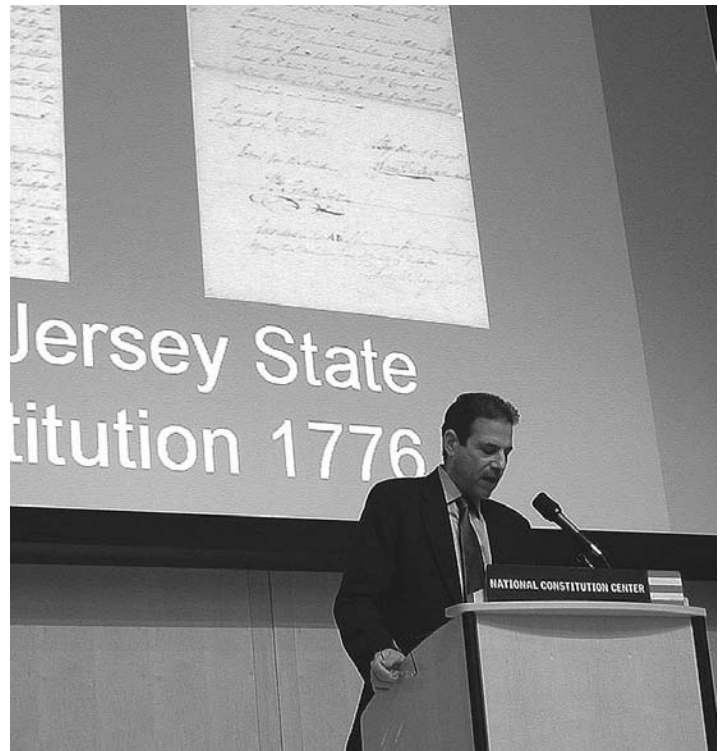
The State Archives has made New Jersey's first state charter more accessible than ever through two public exhibitions—one featuring the original document, and the other featuring electronic images of the manuscript in the "Documentary Treasures" area of the Archives' Web site.

In February 2004, the State Archives loaned the first and last pages of the constitution to the National Constitution Center (NCC) in Philadelphia. The document was highlighted as part of the Center's permanent exhibition, *The Story of We the People*, through August 2004. "The National Constitution Center is enormously grateful to New Jersey and its State Archives for loaning this unique and important document to us," said Richard Stengel, President and C.E.O. of the NCC. "It has provided a wonderful opportunity for hundreds of thousands of people to obtain such a rare perspective on American life in 1776, and in particular a perspective that includes a constitutional anomaly such as this document contains."

The "anomaly" was the enfranchisement of non-male and non-white property owners—a phenomenon occurring only in New Jersey at that time. "It is fitting that we mark the loan of the 1776 New Jersey State Constitution for display at the National Constitution Center during Women's History Month," said Secretary of State Regena L. Thomas at public ceremonies held at the Center in March. "Under a unique provision, the original 1776 New Jersey State Constitution allowed voting rights for women and non-white property owners. It was the only state constitution to do so." This right, however, was revoked in 1807 when the state legislature passed a law restricting suffrage to white male property owners.

The 1776 state constitution is the cornerstone of New Jersey government. In early 1776, the Continental Congress urged the thirteen colonies to sever their ties with Great Britain and establish their own governments. New Jersey hastily completed and adopted its original charter in Burlington on July 2—two days before the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia. The constitution was to remain in effect for the next sixty-eight years.

New Jersey's first charter was, in fact, the colony's own declaration of independence from the British crown. The Constitution's preamble begins, "Whereas all the constitutional Authority, ever possessed by the Kings of Great Britain over these Colonies, or their other Dominions, was, by Compact, derived from the People" and goes on to declare that King George III had refused protection to the people of America, that he had "made War upon



*OFFICIAL THANKS: Richard Stengel, President of the National Constitution Center, expresses gratitude for the loan of the 1776 state Constitution.*

them in the most cruel and unnatural Manner," and that all civil authority under him had ceased.

To further celebrate and display New Jersey's first constitution, the State Archives has made the manuscript its first "Documentary Treasure" to be posted on the Archives' Web site, [www.njarchives.org](http://www.njarchives.org). Full images of all nine pages of the original document, along with a verbatim transcription of the text as originally drafted, can be viewed directly at: <http://www.njarchives.org/links/const76.html>. Keep an eye on the web site for more "documentary treasures" to be posted in the months ahead.

## *C'est Bon! PARIS Grants to Debut*

The Division of Archives and Records Management (DARM) will launch New Jersey's pioneering Public Archives and Records Infrastructure Support (PARIS) grant program in 2005. PARIS grants will fund significant advancements in county and municipal government archives and records programs statewide. The state's fiscal year 2005 budget provides up to \$28 million for grants, making PARIS one of the largest programs of its kind in the nation.

Regena L. Thomas, the Secretary of State, compared the PARIS grant program's impact to that of New Jersey's first records law, "An Act for the Preservation of the Publick Records of the Colony of New Jersey," passed in 1760. "The new program is an advancement as important today as the construction of the first fireproof vaults to protect New Jersey's colonial archives was nearly 250 years ago."

The overall mission of PARIS is to encourage enterprise-wide strategic planning and infrastructure building and improvement, and to promote efficiency and economies of scale through regionalization, including sharing facilities and services between counties and between municipalities

within counties. Funded by document filing and recording fees collected by county clerks, PARIS grants are a key component of the New Jersey Public Records Preservation Program established by the state legislature in July 2003. The program is administered by the DARM in the Department of State. The State Records Committee will award the grants.

The initial year of PARIS grants will ensure that a sound foundation is laid for strategic broadening of the grant program in future years. First-year funding will support:

- state-coordinated county needs assessment and strategic planning services;
- grants for imaging systems and services, and electronic filing portals development and expansion;
- grants for archival records preservation services; and
- grants for municipal needs assessment and strategic planning.

PARIS grants are competitive and awards will be based on applicants' demonstration of need and the quality of their proposals.

DARM Director Karl J. Niederer has announced that applications for PARIS funding will be available to New Jersey counties and municipalities in January 2005 with grant awards planned in the spring.



## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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Governor

Regena L. Thomas  
Secretary of State

Susan Bass Levin  
Community Affairs Commissioner



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The Division of Archives and Records Management has overall responsibility for the efficient management and preservation of all records produced by New Jersey state, county, and local government agencies.



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The mission of the New Jersey Historical Commission is to advance public knowledge of the history of New Jersey through grants, conferences, research, publications, and media projects.



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The mission of the New Jersey Historic Trust is to advance the preservation of the state's historic properties through financial, educational, and stewardship programs.



*The Newsletter of the New Jersey Historical Commission,  
the Historic Trust and the State Archives*

**The Newsletter of the New Jersey  
Historical Commission, the Historic Trust  
and the State Archives**

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